

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 /033 W

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O R 130951Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHINGTON 200

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 1988

FOR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (INGERSOLL, ROBERT S), PFOR, BU

SUBJECT: DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VISIT

REFS A. STOCKHOLM 4559 B. SOFIA 1903 C. SOFIA 1940

1. RETURNED 2 A.M. FROM ALL-DAY OUTING TO ZHIVKOV'S NATIVE VILLAGE (ABOUT WHICH SEE SUMMARY IN OUR SITREP THREE) DURING WHICH WAS ABLE TO DISCUSS INGERSOLL SCHEDULE WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MLADENOV AND IN GREATER DETAIL WITH CHIEF OF PROTOCOL ZHIBROV. THEY PROMISED WE WOULD HAVE DETAILED SCHEDULE PROPOSAL LATER TODAY (SEPT 13) WHICH WE WILL SEND AS IMMEDIATE. MEANWHILE, FOLLOWING ELEMENTS HAVE COME INTO CLEARER FOCUS:

2. FOREIGN MINISTER WISHES TO HOST DINNER IN HONOR OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY EVENING WEDNESDAY SEPT 17. HE ALSO HOPES TO HAVE DETAILED CONVERSATION WITH THE DEPUTY SECRETARY, PROBABLY WEDNESDAY MORNING. THIS WOULD MEAN THAT SCHEDULED TRIP TO SEE INDUSTRY AND FOLKLORE IN GABROVO MOUNTAIN AREA WILL HAVE TO BE MODIFIED. ZHIBROV FELT ALL REQUIREMENTS COULD BE MET BY HAVING TRIP LAID ON FOR WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BY HELICOPTER. WE WILL DISCUSS THIS FURTHER, MEANWHILE ANY COMMENTS BY IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM WOULD BE WELCOME. BELIEVE THE WEDNESDAY DINNER SHOULD BE ACCEPTED.

3. DEPUTY SECRETARY WILL BE MET AT AIRPORT BY FIRST DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ANDON TRAIKOV. (BIODATA FOLLOW).

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4. BULGARIAN GOVT WOULD LIKE TO OFFER GUEST HOUSE FACILITIES TO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY AND HIS PARTY. I SAID AT OTHER POSTS MR. INGERSOLL HAS GENERALLY STAYED AT AMBASSADORS' RESIDENCES,

BUT WOULD PASS THIS INVITATION ALONG. COMMENT: WHILE GOVT GUEST HOUSE FACILITIES ARE CERTAINLY MORE LAVISH THAN WHAT WE CAN OFFER AT THE RESIDENCE, BELIEVE ACCEPTING SUCH HOSPITALITY WOULD COMPLICATE LOGISTICS AND ALSO INVOLVE A PROBLEM OF RECIPROCITY IF THERE IS SIMILAR BULGARIAN VISIT TO WASHINGTON.

5. IT IS VIRTUALLY CERTAIN THAT PRESIDENT ZHIVKOV WILL RECEIVE THE DEPUTY SECRETARY, BUT HIS SCHEDULE FOR THE COMING WEEK IS ALWAYS DETERMINED ON SATURDAYS, SO WE WILL HAVE DEFINITE WORD ONLY LATER TODAY OR MONDAY. SINCE HE IS THE MAN WHO MAKES DECISIONS IN BULGARIA, A VISIT WITHOUT MEETING WITH HIM WOULD BE MUCH LESS VALUABLE. THIS IS UNDERSTOOD BOTH BY FOREIGN MINISTRY AND POLITBURO (I SAT NEXT TO PARTY SECRETARY TELLALOV DURING DINNER LAST NIGHT).

6. THURSDAY SEPT 18, SUBJECT TO DEPUTY SECRETARY'S APPROVAL, THERE WILL BE STAG LUNCHEON AT THE EMBASSY RESIDENCE (SEE PARA 1 D REF B) TO WHICH FOREIGN MINISTER MLADENOV AND OTHER KEY BULGARIANS WOULD COME. AMONG LATTER WILL PROBABLY BE LYUDMILLA ZHIVKOVA, THE DICTATOR'S DAUGHTER, WHO IS EMERGING INTO GREATER PROMINENCE AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CULTURAL RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

7. PRIME MINISTER TODOROV, WHO MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED TO SEE THE DEPUTY SECRETARY, WILL BE AWAY FROM SOFIA ON A VISIT TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA. FACT THAT THIS WAS MENTIONED, AND FACT THAT TIME FOR ZHIVKOV INTERVIEW BEING SOUGHT BY FOREIGN MINISTRY, INDICATE THAT DESPITE DELAY IN FLESHING OUT SCHEDULE GOB IS AWARE OF VISIT'S IMPORTANCE AND EARNESTLY TRYING TO GET THINGS PROPERLY ON TRACK; BUT FOLLOWING THE LATE REVELRY LAST NIGHT, IT MAY BE SOME TIME BEFORE WE CAN GET HOLD OF ANYONE AT MFA TODAY SATURDAY.

8. ONE MORE DETAIL: OPERA IN SOFIA STARTS AT 7 P.M. WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT DEPUTY SECRETARY ACCEPTS SUGGESTION, BUT IN VIEW OF COCKTAILS WITH THREE NATO AMBASSADORS (REF C), WE HAVE IN MIND SCHEDULE THAT WOULD GET US IN OUR SEATS DURING THE INTERMISSION FOLLOWING THE FIRST ACT, PROBABLY ABOUT 8 P.M. WE  
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ARE MAKING ARRANGEMENTS ACCORDINGLY BUT COULD OF COURSE CALL OFF THE NATO DRINKS IF DEPUTY SECRETARY AND HIS PARTY PREFER TO BE AT THE OPERA AT SEVEN.  
HERZ

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 26 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 SEP 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MartinML  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975SOFIA01988  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** D750318-0460  
**From:** SOFIA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t197509107/baaaagli.tel  
**Line Count:** 103  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MartinML  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <05 MAY 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <24 SEP 2003 by MartinML>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971021  
**Subject:** n/a  
**TAGS:** OVIP, BU, US, (INGERSOLL, ROBERT S)  
**To:** STOCKHOLM INFO BUDAPEST  
STATE WASHINGTON  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006